

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims and listings of claims in the application:

1.-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus for mixing a substance in a sealed container with a liquid, the ~~substance container~~ being contained positioned in a container receptacle, assembly having a sealed container that contains the substance, the container assembly also having the container receptacle capable of coupling with a port assembly to permit liquid to enter the container through the port assembly ~~substance to flow from the sealed container when coupled~~, the apparatus comprising:

a ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly for ~~receiving~~ securing the container receptacle next to the port assembly;

a container spiking assembly controller in communication with the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly for controlling coupling of the container receptacle ~~and with the port assembly~~ without allowing decoupling of the container and the port assembly; and

a liquid controller ~~operatively coupled with the receiving chamber~~ for controlling the flow of the liquid through the port assembly into the container to produce a combined substance and liquid, wherein:

the coupling surfaces of the container receptacle and port assembly are adapted and configured to resist decoupling.

27. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the liquid controller ~~controls flow of the liquid to~~ also controls the flow of combined substance and liquid from the container.

28. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the container spiking assembly controller ~~mechanically moves~~ directs the movement of at least a portion of the container spiking assembly to couple the container receptacle with the port assembly.

29. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the container spiking assembly controller includes logic for ~~detecting~~ determining the relative locations of the container receptacle and the port assembly, using input from at least one sensor associated with the container spiking assembly.

30. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly has a cover capable of being in either ~~one of~~ an open position ~~and or~~ a closed position, the cover securing the container ~~assembly~~ receptacle and port assembly within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly when in the closed position, and the container spiking assembly controller having logic for ~~detecting~~ determining if the cover is in the closed position.

31. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 30 wherein the container spiking assembly controller ~~permits~~ includes logic to direct the container receptacle to couple with the port assembly after detecting that the cover is in the closed position.

32. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 30 further including a cover lock that prevents the cover from being moved from the closed position while the liquid is being received by the container.

33. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 further including a pneumatically controlled member within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly, the pneumatically controlled member capable of contributing to the coupling of the container ~~assembly~~ receptacle with the port assembly in response to input from the container spiking assembly controller.

34. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the liquid controller includes stored commands for directing the delivery of logic that stores a value representing a predetermined amount of liquid to be received by the container via the port assembly.

35. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 further comprising a housing containing at least one of the container assembly controller and the liquid controller.

36. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 35 wherein the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly at least partially extends outwardly from the housing.

37. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 further comprising a sensor within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly for detecting the location of the container within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly.

38. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly is configured to contain the container ~~assembly~~ receptacle in a single orientation.

39. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 further comprising a set of valves controlled by the liquid controller to control the flow of liquid into the container.

40. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 further comprising a ~~cassette~~ pump chamber used by the liquid controller to measure the volume of the liquid to be directed to the container.

41. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the substance is a caustic solution.

42. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the substance is an anti-pathogen compound.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim ~~43~~ 26, wherein the container receptacle includes a first locking feature that interfaces with a corresponding second locking feature of the port assembly.

45. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 44, wherein the first locking feature comprises a plurality of ~~port assembly~~ engagement teeth, and wherein the ~~port assembly~~ ~~comprises a corresponding second locking feature that engages~~ one or more of the plurality of ~~port assembly~~ engagement teeth.

46. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 45, wherein the container receptacle includes a plurality of tabs, each tab having ~~port assembly~~ engagement teeth, wherein the ~~port assembly~~ engagement teeth on adjacent tabs are staggered relative to one another.

47. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 46, wherein the ~~port assembly~~ engagement teeth are staggered by approximately half the height of ~~a tooth~~ one of the engagement teeth.

48. (Currently amended) The apparatus defined by claim 43, wherein the container receptacle comprises at least one raised switch engagement feature on an outer surface of the container receptacle for operating a sensor within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly.

49. (Currently amended) An apparatus for mixing a substance in a sealed container with a liquid, the ~~substance~~ container being ~~contained~~ positioned in a container receptacle, ~~assembly having a sealed container that contains the substance, the container assembly also having the container~~ receptacle capable of coupling with a port assembly to permit liquid to enter the container through the port assembly ~~substance to flow from the sealed container when coupled~~, the apparatus comprising:

positioning means for receiving ~~securing~~ the container receptacle next to the port assembly;

coupling means for controlling coupling of the container receptacle ~~and with~~ the port assembly ~~without allowing decoupling of the container and the port assembly~~; and

flow means for controlling the flow of the liquid into the container to produce a combined substance and liquid, wherein:

the coupling surfaces of the container receptacle and port assembly are adapted and configured to resist decoupling.

50. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the flow means ~~controls flow of the liquid to~~ also controls the flow of combined substance and liquid from the container.

51. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the coupling means includes means for ~~mechanically moving~~ causing movement of at least a portion of the ~~container assembly~~ positioning means to couple the container receptacle with the port assembly.

52. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the coupling means includes means for ~~detecting~~ determining the relative locations of the container receptacle and the port assembly, using input from at least one sensor associated with the positioning means.

53. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the ~~receiving~~ positioning means has a cover capable of being in either ~~one of~~ an open position ~~and or~~ a closed position, the cover securing the container receptacle and port assembly within the ~~receiving~~ positioning means when in the closed position, and the coupling means having means for ~~detecting~~ determining if the cover is in the closed position.

54. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 53 wherein the coupling means ~~permits~~ includes logic to direct the container receptacle to couple with the port assembly after detecting that the cover is in the closed position.

55. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 53 further including a cover lock that prevents the cover from being moved from the closed position while the liquid is being received by the container.

56. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 further including a pneumatically controlled means within the ~~receiving~~ positioning means, the pneumatically controlled means capable of contributing to the coupling of the container ~~assembly~~ receptacle with the port assembly in response to input from the coupling means.

57. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the flow means includes means for controlling the delivery of ~~logic that stores a value representing~~ a predetermined amount of liquid to ~~be received by~~ the container via the port assembly.

58. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 further comprising a housing containing at least one of the coupling means and the flow means.

59. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 58 wherein the ~~receiving~~ positioning means at least partially extends outwardly from the housing.

60. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 further comprising a means for detecting the location of the container within the ~~receiving~~ positioning means.

61. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the ~~receiving~~ positioning means is configured to contain the container ~~assembly~~ receptacle in a single orientation.

62. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 further comprising a set of valves controlled by the flow means to control the flow of liquid into the container.

63. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 further comprising a means for measuring the volume of the liquid to be directed to the container, the measuring means being used by the flow means.

64. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the substance is a caustic substance.

65. (Original) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the substance is an anti-pathogen compound.

66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 26 wherein the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly has a cover for securing the port assembly within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly, and wherein the container spiking assembly controller is ~~operably coupled to move~~ configured to control the movement of the container within the ~~receiving chamber~~ container spiking assembly so as to ~~couple~~ connect the container ~~and with a~~ fluid flow lumen of the port assembly.

68. (Currently amended) The apparatus is defined by claim 33 further including an inflatable bladder in communication with the pneumatically controlled member for pneumatic control of the pneumatically controlled member in response to input from the container spiking assembly controller.

69. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein the ~~receiving~~ positioning means is cylindrical.

70. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 49 wherein ~~receiving~~ positioning means includes means for securing the port assembly and wherein the coupling means includes means for moving the container so as to couple the container ~~and with a fluid flow lumen of~~ the port assembly.

71. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 56 wherein the pneumatically controlled means includes a pneumatically controlled member and an inflatable means in communication with the pneumatically controlled member for pneumatic control of the pneumatically controlled member in response to input from the coupling means.